

REMARKS

In paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Office Action, certain claims were rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, as lacking antecedent basis for the term "database". In response thereto, claims 2, 16, 30, and 58 have been amended to remove the antecedency issue.

In paragraphs 8 to 10 of the Office Action, claims 29-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to a program, per se. In response, claim 29 has been amended to define that the computer program product has a computer readable medium with a computer program recorded thereon. Support for this particular claim wording is found at page 16, lines 2 to 6 and lines 9 to 16, for example.

In paragraphs 11 and 12 of the Office Action, all pending claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103, on the basis of the Rosensteel et al. patent (US 6,167,405) in view of the Fenton et al. patent (US 6,990,498). It is respectfully submitted that neither of the references, alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the claimed subject matter.

Rosensteel et al. describes a system for facilitating the creation of warehouse requests in a data warehouse system. The system is largely an Extract Transform Load (ETL) system that includes graphical user tools such as a "Warehouse Designer". The system includes a "Metadata Repository" that holds descriptive data associated with the various source databases and a "Transform Rules" repository that is used by the system to modify the data before it enters the "Target Database" (Warehouse). The associated metadata resides within the ETL system and provides the ETL system with descriptive data associated with the various source systems.

The focus of Rosensteel et al is directly related to populating data repositories. As acknowledged in the Office Action, it does not disclose adaptively interfacing with a data repository.

Fenton et al. describes a method of dynamically updating a "Graphical Index" of a website, which enables users of the website to rapidly scan the logical content of that website as a hierarchal tree structure. Users can add content to the website by uploading files such as audio and video files. In doing so, the Index is automatically updated to include the changes. The Index comprises metadata associated with the content and is searchable by the website user.

The Graphical Index is simply an index held in a server-side database that is updated by the users at the time of uploading their content files. The metadata is descriptive of the Content File and includes such things as a plain English description and the user's view of how the content could be placed into one or more pre-defined categories. This index is then used by the website to display a searchable content screen and to allow the user access to the content found. It is submitted that Fenton et al discloses a 'user experience' only and does not disclose details about 'How' the system can be built.

In contrast, the claimed invention defines methods, systems and computer program products for providing an adaptive user interface (UI) to a data repository. The data repository has associated meta-data. As noted in the preamble, an adaptive UI is provided involving dynamically generating the UI. The UI elements are dependent upon the meta data. Operation of the interface is controlled by events that also are dependent upon data in the data repository and the meta-data. This enables the system to provide Search, Navigation, Display, Query, Reporting,

History and Error Reporting functionality that can be used with almost any dataset without writing new code. It accomplishes this by using specific metadata within the dataset. Furthermore, the same UI can be used to modify the metadata to accommodate changes to the dataset or to change the way the UI responds to the dataset.

It is respectfully submitted that the Fenton patent, whether considered alone or in combination with the Rosensteel patent, does not disclose or suggest "dynamically generating [a] user interface having interface elements that are dependent upon... meta data", together with "operation of said interface [being] controlled by events that are also dependent upon data in said data repository and said meta data", as recited in the independent claims.

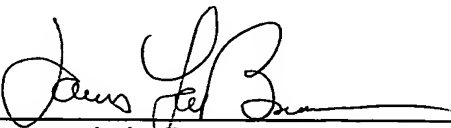
It is therefore submitted that each of independent claims 1, 15, 29, 43, and 57 are not disclosed or suggested by any of the cited references, alone or in combination. As each of the base claims is in condition for allowance, it is submitted that the corresponding dependent claims are themselves in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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